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    UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
    SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
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 3 In re: TERRORIST ATTACKS ON
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           SEPTEMBER 11, 2001
                                       03 MDL 1570 (GBD)
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                                         New York, N.Y.
 6
                                         October 28, 2010
 6
                                         11:00 a.m.
 7
   Before:
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           HON. FRANK MAAS
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 9
                                         Magistrate Judge
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           APPEARANCES
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that the U.S. and Saudi entities are alter egos of one another -- it seems to me that that is correct based on each of 3 the factors that was discussed during oral argument -- it seems to me that essentially the Saudi entity controlled in many respects the U.S. entity and that the two were indistinguishable from one another, which gives rise to a duty to produce.

Turning to the specific discovery requests, there are document requests and there are interrogatories, none of which were discussed when the motion was orally argued but which certainly are fully briefed in the letter submissions that were made to me.

As to the interrogatories, I agree with the defendants that they violated the prior arrangements concerning the number of acceptable interrogatories and did so without prior permission of the Court. So as to interrogatories, I'm going to sustain the objection and not compel further answers.

On the other hand, as to the document requests, it seems to me essentially what I was given was only boilerplate assertions of burdensomeness. To the extent that the objections were on that ground, I'm going to overrule those objections. I am therefore going to direct the U.S. foundation to produce the documents requested by the plaintiffs which are in its possession, custody, or control. And notwithstanding the complications that were outlined in the defendants' papers, SOUTHERN DISTRICT REPORTERS, P.C.

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1 I'm going to make the same direction as to the Saudi 2 foundation.

I agree with the plaintiffs that there has been no adequate showing that the Saudi entity has sought to obtain the documents but cannot. There was an affidavit or declaration from Mr. Nelson and also from the second individual, Mr. al-Buti. But the two of them together, it seems to me, does not amount to an adequate showing that the Saudi foundation, even in the circumstance that persists today, necessarily cannot obtain documents.

Having directed both the U.S. and the Saudi entities to produce documents, I recognize that that may not open the floodgates in terms of document production, and I intend to leave for another day what the consequences of any nonproduction by either of those two defendants will be.

That is my ruling with respect to the letter application concerning Al Haramain. Any questions?

Anything further we ought to take up today?

MR. CARTER: I don't think so, your Honor.

THE COURT: Good. Thank you for coming in.

(Adjourned)

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